



MS AF  
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP

AF  
IFW

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Docket No. 0171-1026P																																											
Application No. 10/679,264-Conf. #003127		Filing Date October 7, 2003		Examiner E. D. Ivey																																											
				Art Unit 1775																																											
Applicant(s): Satoshi OKAZAKI et al.																																															
Invention: HALFTONE PHASE SHIFT MASK BLANK, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE																																															
<p>MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p>Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><thead><tr><th colspan="6" style="text-align: center;">CLAIMS AS AMENDED</th></tr><tr><th></th><th style="text-align: center;">Claims Remaining After Amendment</th><th style="text-align: center;">Highest Number Previously Paid</th><th style="text-align: center;">Number Extra Claims Present</th><th style="text-align: center;">Rate</th><th></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Total Claims</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td><td style="text-align: center;">- 20 =</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">x</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Independent Claims</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">- 3 =</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">x</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Other fee (please specify):</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="5"><b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b></td><td style="text-align: center;">0.00</td></tr></tbody></table> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity</span></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>02-2448</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"><div style="width: 60%;"><p><u>Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.</u> Attorney Reg. No.: 28,977</p><p>BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH &amp; BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000</p></div><div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;"><p>Dated: <u>March 22, 2006</u></p></div></div>						CLAIMS AS AMENDED							Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate		Total Claims	17	- 20 =		x		Independent Claims	2	- 3 =		x		Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>						Other fee (please specify):						<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>					0.00
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Docket No.: 0171-1026P  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Satoshi OKAZAKI et al.

Application No.: 10/679,264

Confirmation No.: 003127

Filed: October 7, 2003

Art Unit: 1775

For: HALFTONE PHASE SHIFT MASK BLANK,  
AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

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Examiner: E. D. Ivey

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 22, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.